

WORD FROM PEKIN

An Escaped Banker Confirms the Reports of Massacre.

THE FOREIGNERS ALL MISSING

Refugee Declares the Legations Were in Ruins July 7.

ANOTHER FUGITIVE'S ACCOUNT

Chinese Representative of a Russian Financial Concern Asserts that the Ministers Were Murdered. Killed Their Families Before They Were Put to Death—Sir Robert Hart Committed Suicide at the Last Moment—Acting Viceroy of Canton Says It Is Impossible for Him to Get a Report From the Capital. Governor of Shansi Enraged at the Warning From the Powers.

LONDON, July 28.—On the heels of the numerous Chinese assertions that there has been no massacre in Peking and that the Imperial Government has protected the foreigners from the brutality of Celestial barbarians comes a report that is regarded here as worthy of confidence. If it is true, and it is generally accepted as bona fide, the tragedy at Peking has been a general one and the civilized nations, despite Chinese assertions, will never hear from their unfortunate representatives.

A despatch to the "Evening News" from Shanghai, of today's date, says the newspapers there publish a statement made by an influential banker residing in Peking near the British Legation, who left that city on July 7.

This banker says the legations had then been destroyed and all the foreigners had disappeared. He was too frightened to enquire if they had been murdered. The banker has gone to Ningpo. He refused to disclose his name as he feared that he would be beheaded.

Details of the Horror.

The manager of the Russian Bank at Shanghai has received a letter from the Nuchwang branch, stating that one of their Chinese representatives from Peking, who has just arrived there, confirms the stories of the massacre of foreigners. Although the man has been tortured, he refuses to change his statement.

He declares that all the ministers were murdered. As the Chinese swarmed in and the ministers saw that death was inevitable they killed their families.

At the last moment Sir Robert Hart, the Imperial Director of Maritime Customs, committed suicide.

These reports, in connection with the letter of Sir Claude MacDonald, which described the precarious state of the legations and expressed the conviction that, if the Chinese attacked them, annihilation was inevitable, are regarded as practically settling all the hopes that some of the diplomats had escaped slaughter. It is the opinion that soon after Sir Claude MacDonald's pitiful letter was written the mob gathered enough courage to sweep in upon the legation buildings. MacDonald stated plainly that, in such an event, all of the foreigners were doomed.

All Peking Messages Secret.

A despatch from Hongkong of yesterday's date says the Italian Consul on Thursday requested the acting Viceroy of Canton to communicate a message to Marquis Ragli, the Italian Minister at Peking, and obtain a reply in a matter that was known only to the consul and the marquis.

The Viceroy on Friday replied that it was impossible to accede to the request. It was beyond his power, since all messages from Peking were received by secret means through the Governor of Shantung. This declaration to furnish Italy's Hongkong representative with reliable information is taken as corroborative of the massacre story and strengthens the belief that the Chinese have been deliberately deceiving the nations in hope that a policy of delay will produce international complications and rebound to the advantage of the Orientals.

Further Chinese Assurance.

Nevertheless, the allegations regarding the safety of the ministers are still being made by Celestial diplomats. The Secretary of the Chinese Embassy in an interview this morning declared that Sir Chien Lo Fong Lub, the Chinese Minister to Great Britain, had direct information from Peking that the ministers were to be escorted to Tientsin. The minister, the secretary said, was still absolutely certain of the safety of the foreign representatives at the Chinese Capital.

A despatch from Shanghai of yesterday's

Niagara Falls, August 2.
Via B. & O. \$10.00.

Special train of day coaches and parlor cars, without change, leave B. & O. station 8:30 a. m. Stop-overs allowed on return trip. Tickets good for ten days. Special low rate excursion from Niagara Falls in connection with this excursion.

Davenport, the King of the Air, Performs daily at Chesapeake Beach.

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return via B. & O. Saturday and Sunday.

July 28 and 29, good for return until following Monday. Tickets good on all trains except Royal Limited.

Lumber Prices now all right at the Friendly Corner, 6th and N. Y. ave. n.w.

date says that when the Governor of the province of Shansi received a telegram from the powers, notifying him that local officials would be held responsible for the safety of foreigners, he became furious and threatened to behead the manager of the telegraph office and destroy the wires.

Fears of a famine are causing uneasiness in parts of China. The crops have failed in Chi-li province, and the inhabitants have been attracted to Tientsin, owing the reports that relief is being distributed there.

A despatch from Hongkong says Canton has been placated with appeals to the people to rise and slaughter the Chinese officials and the foreigners. There has been some pillaging in Shantien, one of the suburbs. Otherwise the city is quiet.

MASSACRE OF MISSIONARIES.

Confirmation of the Slaughter at Pao-tung-Fu July 8.

NEW YORK, July 28.—Rev. A. Woodruff Halsey, one of the secretaries of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, received this morning a cable despatch from Shanghai confirming the news contained in Consul General Goodnow's despatch received yesterday, stating that a massacre of missionaries had taken place at Pao-tung-Fu on July 8.

The despatch received at the Presbyterian Board this morning reads as follows: "Shanghai, July 19.—Simcox, Hodges, Taylor, Mackey, and seven other missionaries massacred at Pao-tung-Fu July 8. Nankin and Hunan missionaries all at Shanghai or Japan."

The despatch was unsigned, but was presumably sent by a Presbyterian missionary in Shanghai.

The persons referred to in the despatch as having been murdered are as follows: Rev. and Mrs. F. E. Simcox, Mrs. Simcox was Miss Mary E. Gibson. Both are natives of Pennsylvania and each has relations in Rouillon and London, Pa. Dr. and Mrs. Cortland Van Rensselaer Hodges. Dr. Hodges is a son of the Rev. Dr. Hodges, Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, at Philadelphia. His wife was Miss Elsie Campbell Sinclair, of the same city. Dr. Yardley Taylor, a native of Maryland, Pa. county, Pa.

Miss Maud A. Mackey, M. D., a native of Illinois, but whose family live in Los Angeles, Cal. Missionaries of other boards stationed at Pao-tung-Fu are as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Ragnell and children, of the China Inland Mission, and Miss Mary S. Morrill, a native of Deering, Me.; Miss Anna T. Gould, of Bethel, Me.; and Rev. Horace T. Pitkin, of Philadelphia, all of the American Board.

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MORE JAPANESE TROOPS.

A Second Division Mobilizing in Shingawa Bay.

YOKOHAMA, July 28.—A second Japanese division for service in China is mobilizing in Shingawa Bay.

A recent despatch said that Japan would land a second division in China by August 3.

ARRIVED AT FORT SHERIDAN.

Fifth Infantry Hurrying Its Preparations for Departure.

CHICAGO, July 28.—One battalion of the Fifth Infantry, which was ordered home from Santiago, Cuba, to prepare for service in China, arrived at Fort Sheridan last night. The troops came from New York over the Nickel Plate Road and arrived in the city at 10 o'clock. Their baggage train arrived an hour earlier.

The other battalion of the Fifth is not expected to arrive from Cuba for about a week. Preparations for the departure of the two battalions for the Orient are being rushed at the fort.

HURRY ORDER FOR CARTRIDGES.

The Bridgman Arsenal Force to Work Overtime.

PHILADELPHIA, July 28.—Major Heath, officer in charge of the arsenal at Bridgman, has received orders from Secretary Root to work his force two hours a day extra, for the purpose of making the 50-calibre cartridges and shrapnel needed by the men being sent to China.

Up to this time the arsenal has been making cartridges at the rate of 10,000 a day. An order was received for 7,000,000 put up in boxes holding 1,000 each. The product is to be shipped daily to San Francisco.

The working force has been increased by 150 men, and Major Heath said today that he had expected orders to work day and night, in which event 2,000 men will be employed.

The employees of the Schuykill Arsenal are busy making and shipping clothing for the men in China.

MR. TOWER RETICENT.

Refuses to Discuss Chinese Assurances Concerning Conger.

PHILADELPHIA, July 28.—Charles-magne Tower, United States Ambassador to Russia, who was the guest of honor at a dinner given last night by Joseph G. Darlington, President of the Union League, at the latter's home in Havertown, came to the city early this morning in company with Mr. Darlington, and after exchanging greetings with a few friends at the Broad Street station, departed for Atlantic City. He will remain there until Monday when he will go to Canton to confer with President McKinley regarding the serious conditions in China, in which the Russian Government is particularly interested.

"I have an appointment with President McKinley for Tuesday," Mr. Tower said, "and it will be necessary my leaving Philadelphia on the limited, on Monday."

The Ambassador studiously refrained from expressing any opinion as to the possible safety of Minister Conger, as suggested in the despatch received by Secretary Hay through Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister, a week ago.

"It would be entirely out of place for me to give an opinion one way or another," said Mr. Tower. "However, I do not hesitate to say that 'in all matters pertaining to the situation in China the attitude of the United States has been one of great dignity and strength. Our Government has been in thorough accord with the other great powers, and has, no doubt, contributed very largely in maintaining the identity of interest between all nations in the purpose of restoring peace in China and protecting the lives and property of Europeans of all nations.'"

Mr. Tower will return from his visit to the President on Thursday, and will sail for Europe the following week. He hopes to reach St. Petersburg by the middle of August.

Chesapeake Beach—See Page 3.

\$3.50 Special Saturday Trip, 8:30 to "Old Point," Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Ocean View, via Norfolk and Washington steamer, Saturday, 8:30 p. m. Round trip tickets to Fort Monroe and Norfolk, good to return Sunday night, \$8.50. For stateroom phone 750. Schedule page 7.

It's Cool at Chautauque Beach These Hot Days.

Plenty of amusements and sport. Trains from B. & O. station, 9:30 a. m., 1:45, and 4:30 p. m. \$5.00. For stateroom phone 750. Schedule page 7.

Lead all in Low Lumber figures, and we sell boards at \$1.15 at 6th and N. Y. ave.

DOUBT GROWS STRONGER

Farther Chinese Assurances Received With Incredulity.

Minister Wu Ting-fang Presents an Edict Protesting That the Foreigners in Peking Were Safe on July 24, and Were Receiving Supplies of Vegetables and Fruit—Little Credence Now Given to Alleged Information From Such Sources, Especially as the Ministers Themselves Are Not Heard From—Chaffee May Decide When to Advance.

Several messages from the Chinese authorities announcing the safety of the ministers at Peking were received at the State Department this morning and were given out in the routine way. The officials place little confidence in the telegrams, and have come to regard all news from Chinese sources as unreliable.

The following bulletin was posted at the State Department today:

"The Chinese Minister called this morning at the State Department and communicated a copy of the Imperial edict of the 24th of July, which had been received by him from the Director General, Sheng, through the Chinese Minister at London.

"The edict states that fortunately all ministers, excepting Baron von Ketteler, are alive and unharmed. They are now being supplied with vegetables, fruit, and provisions by the Government to show its sympathy for them."

The following bulletin announcing practically the same edict through Consul Fowler was also posted:

"The Secretary of State has received a despatch from Consul Fowler, at Chefoo, dated midnight, on the 26th. The message follows: "This morning, by request of the allied admirals, I wired to the Governor (of Shantung), their wish to get news from the ministers themselves. The Governor now replies as follows: 'Have received today edict from Emperor saying that ministers are well. They are sending provisions to the legations. Am confident ministers out of distress and request you (Fowler) to transmit this to admirals.'"

"YUAN, Governor."

"A later despatch, from Mr. Fowler, dated 1 a. m., 27th, is as follows: "Another telegram from Governor 'Have just received Imperial edict 24th stating various ministers, except German, are well; and some days ago had supplied provisions to legations. Am satisfied ministers out of distress.' YUAN."

More Attempts at Trickery.

These messages are regarded by the Government officials merely as further attempts at trickery and delay on the part of the Chinese authorities.

The complete realization by the department officers that they were duped by the bland Celestials has now been fully felt, and there is no longer any disposition to trifles.

It is believed that China is on the verge of a world war, and that in case absolute proof is delivered within a week that the ministers are not alive, a formal declaration of war will be made by the powers.

No faith is placed in the report that the foreign ministers are liable to arrive at Tientsin at any moment and there is no remaining doubt as to the massacre of every foreigner in Peking.

The decision has been reached by the War Department to accept the opinion of the allied commanders at Taku that the present force there is too small, and that it would be suicidal to attempt to move forward with but 20,000 men. The fact that the Imperial Chinese Army is mobilizing at Peking has had its effect, and it is intended to deliver a crushing blow when the move is made.

Chaffee May Decide.

While the intention of the allied commanders seems to be to wait until 50,000 men have been landed, the arrival of General Chaffee at Taku today will decide the question. If the American commander believes it safe to go ahead with the present force he will be supported by this Government.

An official of the War Department, in speaking of the Chinese assurances received today, stated that they were just what he had expected.

"You see, they took the hint about feeding the legations from this Government and at once assured us that they would prepare to feed the ministers. They stated that they had prepared to feed them. Later came the news that they were about to give them provisions and today we learn that they have given them large bundles of tea, rice, bird's nests, etc., and that the 'foreign devils' are wallowing in the fat of the land. As we swallowed the Conger despatch, they have no fears of our balking at the provision story."

Cadets Called to Peking.

The last issue of the "China Mail" to come out of Peking was received at the State Department today. The most significant item in the paper, which is dated June 2, is the following:

"Nine-tenths of the foreigners here would rejoice to see the Russians occupy Peking tomorrow. Practically there is no Chinese Government now. In front of the

Palace and legations, Fate stands and proclaims: 'You can and you can't, you will and you won't, you'll be damned if you do, you'll be damned if you don't.'"

The same issue states that 225 Chinese officers and cadets who were studying at the Military College at Tokyo, Japan, had been ordered to Peking immediately to enter the ranks of the Imperial Army.

The issue also contains an item referring to the presence of General Jung's braves in the city, as follows:

"In the year before last these braves came out of their native district on the frontier and were stationed in Pao-tung and Chingling. In the winter of the year they were removed to the southern suburb of Peking, but only for a short time, for the utter neglect of discipline among them and their notorious anti-foreign propensities caused the foreign representatives to protest against their remaining in such close proximity to the capital, so that they were removed to a more distant place. This removal naturally embittered their antipathy against foreigners, on whom they vowed vengeance. General Tung's braves number 12,500 men, that is twenty-five Chinese battalions, and the army is known under the name of the 'Kan braves.' They appear to have been allowed to come nearer the capital once more, perhaps on the plea of assisting in the work of suppressing the Boxers, but really to assist them."

GENERAL WILSON ARRIVES.

Returns From Cuba and Will Start at Once for China.

NEW YORK, July 28.—Among the passengers who arrived last night on the Ward line steamer Yucatan, from Havana, were Gen. James H. Wilson, recently Governor of Matanzas and Santa Clara Provinces in Cuba, and Miss Catherine and Miss Elmore Wilson, his daughters. General Wilson is in perfect health and spirits, and says he is on his way to China. He will be detained at Hoffman Island until tomorrow afternoon. After landing, General Wilson will take his daughters to his home in Delaware, and then proceed to San Francisco to embark on board of a transport for China.

General Wilson says that he knows something of China and the Chinese. "I spent four years in China, and cannot believe that the Tsung-li-Yamen would permit the massacre of the envoys, and I hope to hear that they have been protected. However, we cannot tell how widespread this trouble is."

"I have been eighteen months in Santa Clara Province, Cuba, and in that time there has not been a case of yellow fever there. It seems to be unreasonable that the massacre of the envoys, and I hope to hear that they have been protected. However, we cannot tell how widespread this trouble is."

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